

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105

## NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION

by the

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IX, WTR-5 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

Public Notice #: AZ-07-W-03 Public Notice Date: March 22, 2007 Comment Period Closes: April 21, 2007

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX (USEPA) is issuing a notice of proposed action under the Clean Water Act (CWA). The USEPA is soliciting comments from the public on its proposal to issue a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit AZ0024627 to:

City of Mesa Northwest Water Reclamation Plant P.O. Box 1466 Mesa, Arizona 85211-1466

The City of Mesa Northwest Water Reclamation Plant (hereinafter "NWWRP") is a facility owned and operated by the City of Mesa in Arizona, and is located at 960 North Riverview in Mesa, AZ 85201, on the south side of the Salt River, adjacent to the Red Mountain Freeway between Price Road and Dobson Road.

The NWWRP collects and treats wastewater from the service area for the northwest portion of the City of Mesa. The facility is being modified and expanded to increase the design flow from 8 million gallons per day (MGD) to 18 MGD of municipal wastewater. The treatment will include primary and secondary clarification, nitrification and denitrification via activated sludge process, filtration and disinfection via ultra-violet (UV) light treatment and or alternative disinfection. The applicable water quality standards are specified in the permit and fact sheet.

The NWWRP currently has one existing outfall #003 and one planned outfall #004 permitted by the State of Arizona (Pursuant to AZPDES permit no. AZ0024031) for discharge to the Salt River in Arizona. The NWWRP is now proposing to discharge effluent at new outfalls #005 and #002. Outfall #005 is the proposed outfall to the Granite Reef Underground Storage Project (hereinafter "GRUSP") and will be located at 33° 29′ 05″ N and 111° 44′ 48″ W. Outfall #002 is the proposed outfall located at 33°

27' 25" N and 111° 50' 25" W. Both Outfall #005 and #002 are discharge points on the Salt River located on Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community (hereinafter "SRPMIC") tribal land, and subject to the federal NPDES permit being public noticed herein (NPDES permit no. AZ0024627).

The administrative record, including the draft permit, fact sheet, comments received, all data submitted by the applicant, and other relevant documents is open for public inspection during normal business hours (9:00-5:00) at the above address. Requests to obtain or review the administrative record should be made to the contact listed below. Interested persons may submit written comments on the draft permit during the public comment period to the contact listed below. All comments or objections received within the comment period will be retained and considered in the formulation of the final permit determination. A request for a public hearing may be made in writing to the contact below (40 CFR Part 124.11).

Upon issuance of a final permit decision and response to comments, the USEPA will notify the applicant and persons who submitted written comments or requested notice of the final permit decision. Within 33 days after EPA issues the final permit, any person who filed comments on the draft permit or participated in the public hearing may petition the Environmental Appeals Board to review any condition of the permit decision (40 CFR Part 124.19).

When public interest warrants, USEPA may schedule a public hearing or may grant an extension of the comment period for the submittal of comments or objections (40 CFR Part 124.14).

Gary Sheth at: (415) 972-3516 or at sheth.gary@epa.gov Or by mail at EPA Region IX (WTR-5) 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105

Website: http://www.epa.gov/region09/water/npdes/pubnotices.html